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By the Lord Protector.



Whereas the Enemies of the Peace of this Nation (notwithstanding the many signal providences of God in frustrating of their former Counsels and Malicious Designs) do appear still restless in their Attempts, to involve this Commonwealth in blood and confusion. In Order whereunto divers of them have lately repaired to London, as well from beyond the Seas, as from several parts of this Commonwealth. His Highness with the advice of his Council, hath therefore thought fit, and doth hereby expressly Charge and Command, That for the better discovery of persons ill-affected to the Peace of this Commonwealth, the Constables of the respective Parishes within the Cities of London and Westminster, Burrough of Southwark, and the Lines of Communication, do forthwith after the publication hereof, repair to the several Houses within their respective Parishes, and require from the householders a List of the names of all such persons as now do, or did lodge in their respective Houses on Friday night last, being the nineteenth of this instant May, or at any time since, with their several qualities and conditions, and how long they have been lodged there. And all and every the said householders are accordingly to deliver to the said Constables, or one of them, a true List of all such names upon peril of being reputed and dealt withall, as Complices and Partakers in the said Designs. Which Lists so delivered, the respective Constables of the Parishes within the Cities of London and Westminster, Burrough of Southwark, and Lines of Communication, are within forty eight hours to deliver to the Lord Mayor of London, and Bayliffs of Westminster and Southwark, respectively, whereof the said Constables are not to fail at their utmost peril. And the said Lord Mayor and Bayliffs are to return the Lists so to be by them received, to his Highness Council at White-Hall, immediately after the receipt thereof. And his Highness doth likewise strictly command and require, that no person or persons whatsoever, lodging within the Lines of Communication, do change his or their several and respective lodgings, or depart out of the said Lines for the space of ten daies after the date hereof, without a special Licence and Pass in that behalf obtained from the Lord Mayor of the said City of London, or Bayliff of Westminster or Southwark respectively, under their respective hands and seals; which Pass the said Lord Mayor and Bayliffs of Westminster and Southwark respectively, are hereby authorized to give to all such persons concerning whom they shall be satisfied, that they have no ill intentions or designs against the Commonwealth, and to none else. And if any such person shall presume to depart out of the said Lines, within the said time, without licence obtained as aforesaid, it shall be reputed a Contempt of this his Highness Command, and be punished according to its demerit. And the Lord Mayor of the City of London, and Bayliffs of Westminster and Southwark respectively, are to cause this Proclamation forthwith, after publication thereof, to be sent to the several Constables as aforesaid, and to require and demand from them an account of their proceedings thereupon.

Given at White-hall the 23. of May, 1654.

